

# DockLines

VOL. VIII, NO.1

THE SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2008

Editor: Mick Kronman  
Art Director: Brian Slagle

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Skilled, knowledgeable and prepared 24/7

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Now classified as vessels

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**Storm-Proofing Your Boat**  
'Tis the season to inspect, store and secure

## DockLines

### Contact Numbers

Business Office: (805) 564-5531

#### OFFICE HOURS:

Monday through Friday  
8:00 a.m. to noon  
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Harbor Patrol: (805) 564-5530

Maintenance: (805) 564-5522

Parking: (805) 564-5523

Fax: (805) 560-7580



## Breakwater Cap Repair Project, Phase Three

*By Karl Treiberg, Waterfront Facilities Manager*

As most of you know, the City built the breakwater between 1927 and 1930 with rock quarried from Santa Cruz Island. The breakwater was capped in the 1950s by adding a walkway and parapet wall, providing increased protection from coastal storms and a place to enjoy views of the ocean and City alike. The breakwater cap was replaced in the 1970s and is being replaced again in four phases.

The first two phases were completed in 2004 and 2007, respectively. Construction of Phase Three, including 400' of cap from the easterly section of the breakwater to the Sandspit, will begin in March 2009 and last two to three months. Lash Construction Company, low bidder on the project, will conduct the work for \$570,000. The breakwater cap will be replaced in-kind with the exception of the parapet wall, which will be built seven inches higher than the existing wall, to meet current building-code requirements. Similar to Phase Two construction, the breakwater will be open to the public up to the construction site.

Phase Four will feature reconstruction of the curve in the breakwater cap just southeast of the Yacht Club. Fortunately, this section is still in very good shape and therefore will not be rebuilt for several years.



## Capital Planning vs. Budget Reality

*By Scott Riedman, Waterfront Business Manager*

Every other year, all City departments review and update the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), a tool for identifying capital projects and associated funding requirements over the next six years.

The Waterfront Department funds capital projects in the Harbor and on Stearns Wharf. Recent examples include Harbor commercial area slurry sealing, a new roof on the Marine Center Building (125 Harbor Way) and pile driving on the Wharf. Upcoming projects include breakwater cap replacement (see related article), pile and plank replacement on the City Pier and Marina 1 walkway replacement. A complete list of projects and tentative construction dates was presented to the Harbor Commission on November 20th and can be viewed on the City's website at [www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov](http://www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov).

Waterfront projects are paid for with surplus from the Department's operating fund (revenue minus expense), with any remaining costs taken from the Department's capital reserve, known as the Harbor Preservation Fund. This year, economic concerns are on everyone's mind and we are closely monitoring the Waterfront budget. From July 1st through November 30th, Department revenues were down 4% (\$200,000) compared to the same period last year. The shortfall is primarily due to a decline in slip permit transfers—not surprising due to economic conditions and a decline in boat sales. If adequate funding is not available, some capital projects may need to be delayed until conditions improve. Stay tuned for more on this and related issues when staff begins budget presentations to the Harbor Commission in February or March.

## Harbor Festival Goes "Over the Top"

Undaunted by brisk fall winds, thousands showed up for the 7th Annual Harbor and Seafood Festival on Saturday, October 11th. This may have been the largest crowd ever to attend the event, a benefit for the Page Youth Center. They enjoyed a smorgasbord of lobster, crab, albacore, oysters, shrimp and more. Live music swirled through the Harbor commercial area, while festival-goers enjoyed free rides aboard Captain Don's *Harbor Queen*, toured the tall ship *Spirit of Dana Point*, watched seafood cooking demonstrations at the Waterfront Grill and visited booths of marine-related government agencies and nonprofits on the City Pier. Some 40 craft vendors reported steady business throughout the day, rounding out a truly successful event.

Staff wishes to thank volunteers from the Maritime Museum, NOAA and Page Center, whose commitment proved indispensable. In addition, the tireless work of local commercial fishermen who helped cook and prepare thousands of pounds of local sustainable seafood, reminded all of their vital role in our community.

## Parade of Lights

Nineteen boats lit up a sparkling clear evening December 7th, during the 23rd Annual Parade of Lights. After the last boat entertained judges at Coastal Winery's public viewing deck, a five-minute fireworks display dazzled throngs of people on Stearns Wharf and throughout the Harbor.

The parade followed a traditional Santa's Village event on the City Pier, where hundreds of children played in the snow and bent the jolly man's ear about their Christmas lists, while K-LITE radio piped holiday tunes through the venue. After the parade and fireworks, the Endless Summer bar-café hosted a rockin' awards party, where participants and their friends and families toasted winners and celebrated the event (see a list of winners adjacent to this article).

The parade was presented by the 2008 Parade of Lights Committee in conjunction with the Santa Barbara Harbor Merchants Association, Stearns Wharf Business Association, Santa Barbara Yacht Club, Santa Barbara Maritime Museum and City of Santa Barbara Waterfront Department.

## Parade of Lights Winners

**Grand Prize:**  
*Maria Del Mar*

### Commercial Fishing

**1st Place:** *Maria Del Mar*  
**2nd Place:** *Sea Fever*

### Commercial Other

**1st Place:** *Channel Cat*  
**2nd Place:** *Channel Keeper*  
**3rd Place:** *Sunset Kidd*

### Human Power

**1st Place:** *Kayaks*

### Power

**1st Place:** *Serengeti*  
**2nd Place:** *Ranger*  
**3rd Place:** *Polaris*

### Sail

**1st Place:** *Trans World One*  
**2nd Place:** *Saltwhistle*  
**3rd Place:** *Read for Fun*

### Golden Bilge Pump Award

*Oso Loco*

## CLEAN MARINA CORNER



## Mobile Sewage Pumpout in Santa Barbara Harbor

A mobile sewage pumpout service—a first for Santa Barbara Harbor—hit the water December 8th, augmenting five dockside pumpout stations. Jon Payne, long known for his local rigging business (Mobius Rigging Services), restored and refitted an old Boston Whaler (*Mobius #2*) for the job, adding a pump system and a 150-gallon holding tank.

Pumpout services, including options for a basic pumpout, a pumpout with a fresh-water holding-tank rinse, and/or treatment with odor-killing chemicals are available Mondays or by appointment during an emergency. Prices are variable, based on tank size and service requested. To learn more about the mobile pumpout or to schedule service, contact Jon Payne at [Mobiusrigging@gmail.com](mailto:Mobiusrigging@gmail.com) or call him at (805) 708-2427.

## Biodegradable Boat Soap—"Should" Turns to "Shall"

By Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager

Boating provides countless hours of enjoyment. That's why we love it, right? And a clean, well-maintained boat makes it that much better.

Unfortunately, conventional boat-cleaning soaps contain elements like phosphates and bleach that degrade water quality. These ingredients can also be toxic to marine life or act as fertilizer by contributing to algae blooms (red tide) that deplete oxygen levels in the water, increasing the chance of harming fish and invertebrates. Fortunately, there's an environmentally friendly alternative for boat cleaning: biodegradable soap.

The City recently completed a state-required Stormwater Management Plan, which includes a number of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to help maintain good water quality in our harbor. While the Waterfront has for years encouraged boaters to use biodegradable soaps for washing boats, the state now requires it. Business Activity Permits and Marina Rules and Regulations have been modified to reflect this requirement. Now, here's the good news: biodegradable soaps are readily available at most chandleries, boating outlets, auto shops and grocery stores. Please wash your boat with biodegradable soap and do your part to maintain good water quality in our harbor.



## Harbor Patrol: Trained and Ready to Serve You

By William Petrini, Harbor Patrol Officer

Born and raised in Santa Barbara, I spent a fair amount of time in the Harbor fishing, surfing at the Sandspit and just plain being a kid in paradise. Little did I know I would spend my adult career at this very location.

Becoming a Harbor Patrol Officer is a challenge. Many are the classes to attend, plus certifications and licenses to be obtained. Consider, for example, the US Coast Guard Captain's license with towing endorsement, the Emergency Medical Technician certificate, the lifeguard certificate and Police Officers Standards and Training (POST) certificate in arrest, search-and-seizure and firearms. Additionally, each Officer attends all classes offered by the California Department of Boating and Waterways, including marine firefighting, boating accident investigation, boating safety and enforcement, boating under the influence, piloting and navigation and rescue-boat operations. On average, each Officer receives over 100 hours of job-specific training annually. Officers also have a wide background in boating--commercial, pleasure, military, government and fishing boats.

Harbor Patrol works in conjunction with the Santa Barbara Fire Department, Santa Barbara Police Department, US Coast Guard and other local, state and federal agencies. Through these relationships and training, we endeavor to provide and maintain a safe environment for Harbor patrons.

The Waterfront Department is committed to having a well-rounded staff, including its Harbor Patrol Officers, who wear many hats. Rest assured, we are well trained for the wide array of events that occur daily in and out of the water. We're here 24/7, so if you need assistance don't hesitate to contact us on VHF channel 16, or by phoning the Harbor Patrol Office at 564-5530.

## STORM-PROOF YOUR BOAT

Santa Barbara winters are typically mild, but it doesn't take much wind or rain to cause major problems, including damaging or sinking an unattended boat. Here are some things to consider:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Early Warning</b>                                 | Monitor weather reports. Visit your boat before the next storm. If you can't check your boat, find a responsible person who can.  |
| <b>Dock Lines</b>                                    | Visually inspect for chafe, wear and trip hazards (please don't run dock lines across fingers). Tie lines securely to cleats or pilings; consider chafing gear and doubling-up lines.   |
| <b>Dock Obstructions</b>                             | Don't store skiffs or other items on the dock.  |
| <b>Bilge Check</b>                                   | Test your bilge pump to ensure that 1) it's working; 2) float switches properly activate pumps; and 3) float switches aren't hindered by debris. Be sure limber holes aren't blocked. Close seacocks and check propeller and rudder shafts. |
| <b>Fenders</b>                                       | Have an adequate number of appropriately sized fenders.   |
| <b>Sails, Rigging, Tarps, and Loose Gear on Deck</b> | Store or tightly secure.  |
| <b>Hatches, Ports and Windows</b>                    | Close and secure.   |
| <b>Consider</b>                                      | Removing valuables and electronics, installing a dehumidifier or moisture absorber, propping up cushions and opening the boat during periods of fair weather to circulate air.  |

For assistance or to report problems, contact Harbor Patrol at 564-5530 or on VHF channels 12 or 16.

## Stand-up Paddleboards Now Classified as Vessels

From Oregon to Mexico, the sport of stand-up paddling has grown considerably over the past few years. Responding to a request for legal interpretation, the Coast Guard recently classified "paddleboards," meaning Stand-Up Paddleboards (SUPs), as "vessels." The newly classified vessels must comply with federal navigation rules and "carriage" requirements when operated beyond the narrow limits of a swimming, surfing or bathing area. That means stand-up paddlers need a USCG-approved life jacket (Personal Flotation Device—PFD) for each person, a sound-signaling device (whistle), visual distress signals and navigation lights (flashlight).

The same requirements apply to kayaks and other manually propelled vessels of similar size. Stand-up paddleboards are exempt from hull identification number and registration requirements. Please enjoy your SUP safely and responsibly. Harbor Patrol will continue to educate and encourage stand-up paddlers to comply with these new rules.

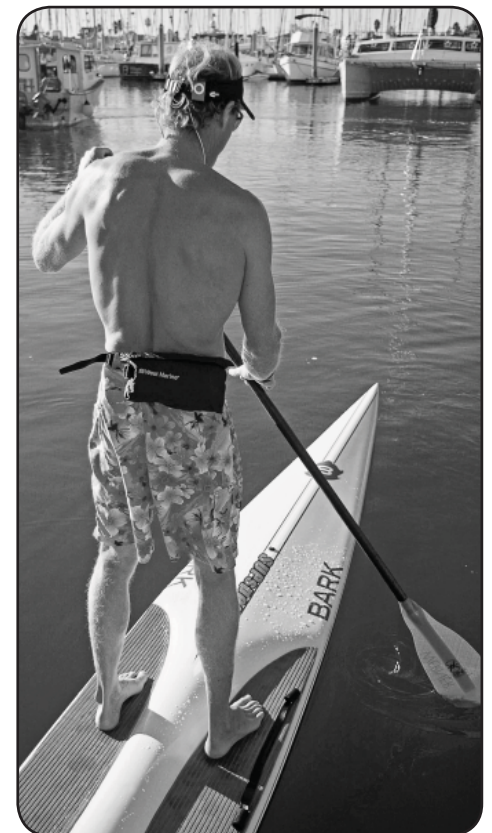


Photo: 2008 © SUPsports.com

Stand-up paddler wearing Coast Guard-approved, fanny pack-style, inflatable PFD



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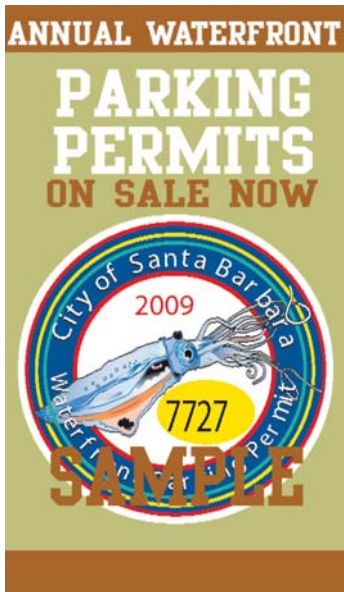


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[www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/departments/waterfront](http://www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/departments/waterfront)

City of Santa Barbara | Waterfront Department

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## Marina Carts—The Ethics of Sharing

It can be a long walk from the main harbor parking lot to the marinas, especially Marina One, so the Department provides share (dock) carts at each marina to help boaters lug gear to their boats. The carts get a lot of use, so we recently replaced four old ones and added several new carts to our inventory.

Still, share carts have a nasty tendency to disappear quicker than they get replaced. We try to keep track of them and make sure they are returned to their proper marinas, but we need your help. All share carts should be picked up and dropped off at the foot of the gangway in each marina. With up to 590 slips in a marina, there can be lots of demand for the carts, especially on weekends. Please extend courtesy to fellow boaters by offloading your gear and returning carts to the gangway as quickly as possible. If you come across a share cart that's gone AWOL, please return it to the marina. Following these basic rules sets a good example for other boaters and, hopefully, the next time you need a cart there will be one waiting for you at the foot of the gangway.



2008 Harbor & Seafood Festival  
Photo: Lois Allison

## No Fee Increase for 2009 Annual Parking Permits

It's that time again—time to purchase your annual Waterfront Parking Permit. The good news is that this year's permit prices are the same as last year's. General Permits: \$95, Slipholder Permits: (one per slip) \$70.

Permits went on sale December 1st and are valid from the date of purchase through December 31, 2009. So, you might want to purchase your 2009 permit before January 1st for a whole year of uninterrupted, economical parking.

General Permits are available at all Waterfront parking kiosks except Stearns Wharf, or at the Harbormaster's Office. Slipholder Permits may only be purchased at the Harbor Patrol Office. Parking attendants may only accept cash or local checks with identification. The Harbormaster's Office will accept cash, local checks with identification, Visa, MasterCard or Discover Card.

For more Waterfront parking information, call 897-1965.

### Harbor Commission Dates:

January:	1/15/2009
February:	2/19/2009
March:	3/19/2009

Harbor Commission meets the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers